



From Seed to Pumpkin

Wendy Pfeffer , James Graham Hale (Illustrations)

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Pumpkins can be baked in a pie, carved into jack-o'-lanterns, and roasted for a healthy snack. But how does a tiny seed turn into a big pumpkin? With clear text and detailed, colorful illustrations, this book explains what a pumpkin seed needs to help it grow! This book also includes delicious pumpkin recipes and easy experiments to do with pumpkin seeds.

This is a Stage 1 Let's-Read-and-Find-Out, which means the book explains simple science concepts for preschoolers and kindergarteners. Let's-Read-And-Find-Out is the winner of the American Association for the Advancement of Science/Subaru Science Books & Films Prize for Outstanding Science Series.

Supports the Common Core Learning Standards and Next Generation Science Standards

From Seed to Pumpkin Details

Date : Published August 17th 2004 by HarperCollins

ISBN : 9780064451901

Author : Wendy Pfeffer , James Graham Hale (Illustrations)

Format : Paperback 40 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Science, Nonfiction, Holiday, Halloween

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From Reader Review From Seed to Pumpkin for online ebook

Ngaosy-ong says

A great book for 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders! The book tells in order of how a seed is planted in the spring and how the seed need a lot of water and sunlight in order for it to grow. The book tells you step by step on how the pumpkin starts from a seed, to a plant and onto a pumpkin.

Sarah Westgate says

Genre: Nonfiction

This book is great for Kindergarten and up. One unique feature of this book is it discusses the life cycle of a pumpkin in a fun way!

Alexandra Duca says

Title: *From Seed To Pumpkin*

Author: Wendy Pfeffe

Illustrator: James Graham Hale

Genre: "How To" book

Theme(s): Life Cycles, Children Learning

Opening line/sentence: "When spring winds warm the earth, a farmer plants hundreds of pumpkin seeds."

Brief Book Summary: This book is a very detailed stories of how pumpkin seeds grow and form into big orange pumpkins. Once the pumpkins form, the book discusses all the seasonal things people do with pumpkins and a list of activities at the end.

Professional Recommendation/Review #1: School Library Journal

PreS-Gr 1-Another entry in the popular and useful science series, this title explains in simple, clear language the stages in the development of a seed into a pumpkin. A couple of easy recipes and experiments are appended. Appealing watercolor-and-pencil illustrations show children involved in planting and tending the pumpkins, and help make the process and the passage of time understandable to this audience.-Sally R. Dow, Ossining Public Library, NY Copyright 2004 Reed Business Information.

Professional Recommendation/Review #2: Children's Literature

Pumpkins always make me think of Halloween and Thanksgiving. One for the jack-o'-lanterns and two for the delicious pies. Pfeffer takes kids through the cycle of how the bright orange vegetable comes to be. It all starts in the spring when the farmer plants the seeds. The water and nutrients in the soil help the plant that tiny sprouts from the seeds grow bigger and push their way up out of the soil. The roots draw up the water while the leaves make food for the plant using energy from the sun air and water. Pumpkins hug the ground and the vines spread like a carpet. Then bright orange flowers appear. After pollination the fruit begins to grow and by fall pumpkins have gone from green to yellow to orange. Then they are harvested and used for decoration and as a food source. Even the seeds make a tasty treat. At the end of the book there is more information, a recipe and an experiment. The growth process is clearly described and depicted and will make a nice adjunct to a beginning science collection and also a perfect book for the fall. A Level 1 book in the "Let's-Read-And-Find-Out Science" series. 2004, Harper Collins, , Ages 3 to 6.

—Marilyn Courtot

Response to Two Professional Reviews: These two reviewers both accurately describe the success of the illustrations by Hale in this book. School Library Journal discusses how the illustrations in the book show children involved in the process of planting and caring for pumpkins which makes it easily understandable for children. I liked how the Children's Literature review states that this book is well depicted and makes it a perfect beginning book for fall because I agree!

Evaluation of Literary Elements: This book uses very vivid and detailed illustrations to portray the process of seeds growing. The illustrations are enhanced by various word bubbles, thought bubbles and arrows to portray just exactly what the text says and more. In addition, the book is written in short phrased paragraphs that are easy to read for young children.

Consideration of Instructional Application: This book can be used to apply to a seasonal lesson in the fall for children. It can teach them all about how people use pumpkins and the class can potentially carve a pumpkin or make some pumpkin treats. In addition, this book can be used to teach children all about how plants grow.

Aolund says

Informative, sweet pictures, a lovely sense of seasons, diverse characters pictured.

997997 says

This book introduces how pumpkin seeds grow pumpkins. There is one farmer and with his 3 kids, when the warm of the earth, the farmer plants hundreds of pumpkin seeds into underground, every pumpkin seed can become a baby pumpkin plant, underground, covered with dark and soil, the baby pumpkin starts to grow, when the baby pumpkin starts to grow, in this book, it shows forms about the growing baby pumpkin. On the planting time, the shoots will poke up the earth, and they can become two leaves, for its growing, it needs water, sunlight, and air. And when the leaves will grow other leaves, and also here is a biggest, and then, here are some flowers appear here, like umbrellas, but on the heat day, the flowers will close, they will open on the cold night and early morning, they also will attract bees, and the bees can spread their pollen for them, when the flowers bloomed, the tiny hard fruits began to grow, hundreds of these cling to the tiny vine. When the weather becomes hot, the warm weather and cold rain help them to grow, and when summer is over, pumpkin changed its color, from the green, to orange and then to yellow. It is a long time for pumpkin seeds to become a pumpkin.

In this book, it uses many vivid pictures for kids, like how the seed grows step by step, and also shows some conditions for seeds growing, which will give kids a better understanding for how pumpkin seeds become pumpkins, and about the description, it provides so many details and it is really specific, though, the author uses some words that are simple, it is beneficial for kids to understand. About this book, it can help kids enhance other knowledge for how a seed becomes a plant. About this book, it provides short and brief states for each paragraph, it is easy for kids to read and do not make them lose their interest.

Ashlynn Kahle says

Great book for autumn time! I enjoyed how this book went into so much detail over the growing of pumpkins. I can tell each illustration was thought out very carefully to fully explain the pumpkin growing process. I loved how this book also incorporated the seasons to show how weather can impact a pumpkin's environment. I would say the age group could be ages 3 and up, little ones would definitely enjoy learning about this topic. I loved how the author added recipes in the end, this will more likely make children excited about the subject! Overall, great book I feel that it's most important to share with children information about nature and it's environment. I even learned a few things!

Jenny says

Step by step explanation of how pumpkins grow from seeds. I could definitely use this to talk about how plants grow and what they need during our science unit on living and nonliving things.

Memory Kopp says

This story tells the life of how a seed becomes a big orange pumpkin. It follows three young kids with a farmer as they go through all of the steps involved to make the pumpkin grow. From planting the seeds, to making sure it gets water and sunshine. This book is best appropriate for use with Kindergarten to first graders with its use of simple and easy to understand words and steps. The watercolor and pencil illustrations help to show the steps in picture form. The illustrator's use of adding in the different seasons that occur during this process can help show a young reader how much approximate time is taking place. Adding the children and the farmer to the story can help to keep their attention when reading about a subject that could sometimes be boring to young readers. The illustrator makes sure to add pictures of the kids playing and going trick or treating to give a fun side to the story. The end of this story has a recipe for making roasted pumpkin seeds and an experiment to show how a plant drinks water. Both of these would be fun for a class to do for a lesson. The author used her experience as a teacher and her research to tell a simplified version of photosynthesis with this story without using the actual word. One suggestion that I have would be that at some point to use or introduce some of the actual terms so that the readers can get used to them maybe by having some vocabulary terms at the end to use in a discussion and for the students to relate to the steps in the text.

Merged review:

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Xinwen Xu says

This book is very interesting. It talks about the pumpkin's growth process. In the spring, they planted the seed of pumpkin in the black earth, and they are waiting for the seed become sprout. When the sprout appear, people are very happy, they take care of these sprout very well, and the sprout have flowers, these flowers are very beautiful, people can appreciate them together. Gradually, when fall is coming, there are a lot of pumpkins. This is very great things for people, their endeavor have a good result. Children are very excited and play together. People also celebrate their harvest. their laughs are left on the field for a long time. In this book, I really like these pictures. The main color are yellow, red, green, and blue. These colors are very warm and bright. Children will like it very much because the book teach reader a lot of knowledges about pumpkin, and every step about the growth of pumpkin also have particular explain. It is very useful for children to study these knowledges and know the growth process of pumpkin. The book use simple words and sentences to show reader about it, these pictures like drawing by color pencil. It is very great.

Paige Hirsch says

1. The book "From Seed to Pumpkin" by Wendy Pfeffer is about the life cycle of a pumpkin. It explains the process from the seed until it becomes a pumpkin. The book explains what the seed needs to grow into a pumpkin.
 2. I use this book as part of my informational unit in the fall. I bring in a real pumpkin seed and a pumpkin. We review the process of what happens from a seed to a pumpkin. This ties into our science unit and informational writing. The students may use transition words to explain the process.
 3. I would pair this book with "The Biggest Pumpkin Ever" by Steven Kroll.
 4. "When spring winds warm the earth, a farmer plants hundreds of pumpkin seeds. Every pumpkin seed can become a baby pumpkin plant.
-

Kathryn says

I read From Seed to Pumpkin with my four-and-a-half year old. He's been interested in growing things from seeds and in the growing cycle so it was timely for us. He was absorbed for the "story" (such as it was; it's mostly just informative/science info about how pumpkins grow from seed to harvest, but the farmer and children in the illustrations help make it more fun and easier to relate to) and it seemed well suited to his level of understanding. He hasn't asked for it again, though--it's really not endearing in that way but I feel it

serves its purpose.

Dianna says

Clear, concise writing (perfect for reading out loud to small children), and cute, informative illustrations. We liked this one!

Jana says

When there are so many pumpkin treats around this time of year, it's a good time to share books about where pumpkins come from. This book uses easy to read and understand text, along with welcoming, cheerful illustrations to show how pumpkins grow from seeds to the full grown fruits we know and love. There are nice diagrams explaining the science behind growing these plants, and there are directions for further activities to extend the book.

Beverly says

This is a pretty utilitarian explanation of pumpkin growth for primary elementary grade students. The illustrations are cute and appealing, and so make the information more palatable. I liked that the author included the recipe and experiment at the end. I would have liked for her to also include some of the different varieties of pumpkins as well.

Lisa says

I didn't find this book too interesting but picked it up for seasonal reading. My toddler enjoys it quite a bit, and there's certainly a nice introduction of some scientific concepts. Illustration style is pleasant enough.
